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THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

NEWS

Prestigious
medals are
awarded

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ANIMALS

Gibbons
know how
to dance

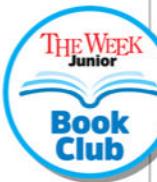
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READING

Announcing
this month's
book pick!

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November 8, 2024 • Vol. 5, Issue 238 • \$5.99

Making sense of the world



Junior

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
**CURIOUS
KIDS**

SHOULD THE ISS BE SAVED?

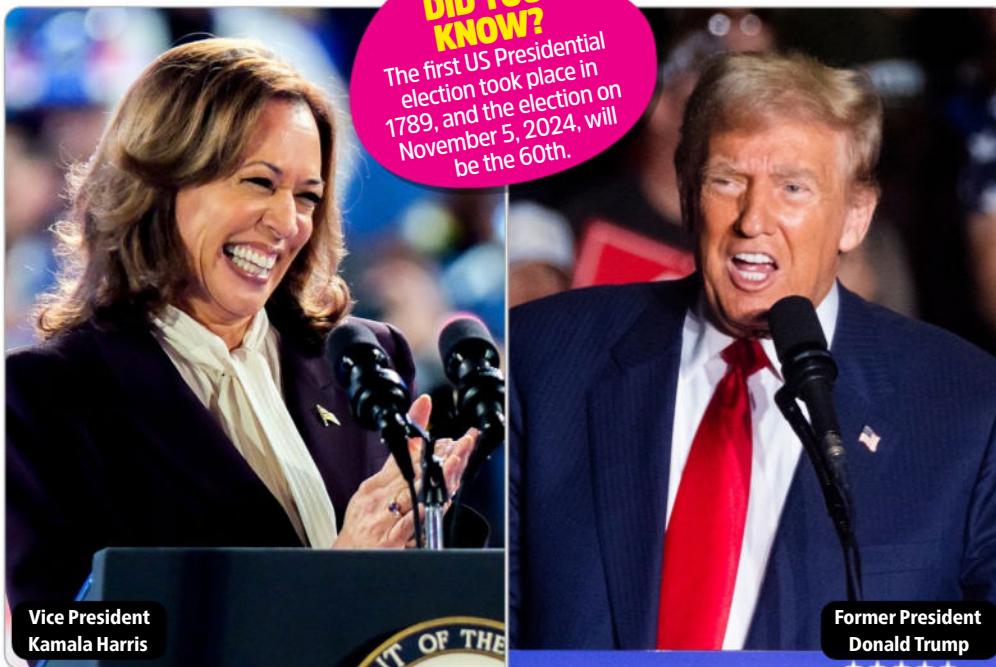
Vote in our big debate! p8



The International Space
Station, set to be removed
from orbit in 2030



This week's big news



Vice President
Kamala Harris

Former President
Donald Trump

DID YOU KNOW?
The first US Presidential election took place in 1789, and the election on November 5, 2024, will be the 60th.

How political polls work



In a political poll, experts contact a random sample of people across the US by phone or online, asking about their views and intentions. The poll respondents typically include people of different political parties, ages, genders, and education levels. The data is used to predict how a larger number of Americans will vote.

Candidates sprint to finish line

As Election Day approaches, the two main candidates for President—Vice President Kamala Harris, a Democrat, and former President Donald Trump, a Republican—are making their final case to voters. The last major poll before the November 5 election, conducted by *The New York Times* and Siena College, found the candidates tied at 48% of the vote.

What is happening in the US Presidential race?

Harris and Trump are focusing their efforts on the "swing states" (Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin), where the race is tightest and the election is most likely to be decided. The candidates are crisscrossing these battleground states to hold events and speak to voters while also flooding TV, radio, newspapers, and social media with ads. In a race that is widely predicted to be very close, campaign staff members as well as thousands of volunteers are trying to increase voter turnout and help undecided voters make up their minds. Between October 1 and October 16, the amount the two candidates spent on their campaigns exceeded \$500 million.



What other races are happening?

Many other elections are taking place across the US, including races for the US Senate and House of Representatives (both halves of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws). All 435 seats in the House and 34 of the 100 seats in the Senate are up for election. In addition, 11 states will elect governors, and dozens of states will choose officials for other top statewide roles, including attorney general (state's top lawyer). Elections will be held for 5,807 state lawmaker positions in 44 states. And voters in 41 states will consider 159 statewide ballot measures, which are essentially laws that are approved or rejected by the people. Mayors will be chosen in many cities, including Portland, Oregon; San Francisco, California; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Baltimore, Maryland.

How is early voting going?

Every state except Alabama and Mississippi offers the opportunity to vote before Election Day, November 5. When *The Week Junior* went to press on October 29, more than 66 million people had requested mail-in ballots and more than 49 million people had voted, either by casting a ballot in person or by filling out an absentee ballot and mailing or hand-delivering it. Experts said these

numbers were high and reflected strong interest in participating in the election. In Georgia, 2.8 million people voted in the first 12 days of early voting—more than half of the 5 million total who voted in the state in 2020. North Carolina set an early voting record, tallying more than 353,000 votes on the first day polls opened. More Democrats typically vote early than Republicans, but states such as Nevada are showing higher percentages of Republicans voting early this year. Meanwhile, election officials at the national, state, and local levels are working to ensure that voting equipment, facilities, and software are functional and secure so votes are counted accurately.

What will happen next?

When *The Week Junior* went to press, Harris was set to deliver her final major speech of the campaign in Washington, DC. Trump was expected to attend several additional rallies. Polls will be open on November 5 from 6 or 7 a.m. until as late as 8 or 9 p.m., depending on the state. Major media outlets will cover the Presidential race on election night and will make predictions as voting results come in. To become President, a candidate needs to win 270 electoral votes. The final results of the election could be announced that night or could take longer.



Dino fossils found in Hong Kong

Dinosaur fossils have been discovered in Hong Kong for the first time, officials have announced. Hong Kong is a Chinese territory with hundreds of islands. The fossils—which belong to a large dinosaur that lived between 145 million and 66 million years ago—were discovered on a small, rocky, uninhabited landmass called Port Island.

First found in March, the fossils are now on display at the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre. Experts said they belong to a vertebrate (creature with a backbone) dinosaur, but further research is needed to determine exactly what species they're from. Port Island has been closed indefinitely to allow experts to search for more.

Many dinosaur fossils have been found in mainland China, but the discovery in Hong Kong marks an exciting first. Michael Pittman, a paleontologist (scientist who studies fossils) at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, said he hopes the fossil find “inspires greater interest in science and nature in our community and will lead to notable scientific outcomes.”

The fossils on display



A TRAVELING BEAR

Paddington is the proud “bear-er” of an official British passport. Producers of the new film *Paddington in Peru* requested a replica to use in the movie. Instead, the government issued the beloved bear a real one, complete with a photo.



Paddington Bear

ON THE COVER: NASA (2); SEGA/NFPA (GETTY IMAGES); ON THIS PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3); THE BRITISH MUSEUM (2); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2)



ROW OF LIGHTS
Diwali is also called Deepavali, which comes from the Hindi language words *deepa* (light) and *avali* (row).

Diwali celebrations begin

The Hindu festival of Diwali (pronounced *DEE-vuh-ly*) is set to begin on October 29. Also known as the festival of lights, Diwali marks the victory of good over evil and light over darkness. It is celebrated by more than a billion people worldwide who follow the Hindu religion, as well as people who follow the religions of Sikhism, Jainism, and Buddhism.

Diwali traditions vary across religions and regions. For example, many people in the south of India tell the story of Lord Krishna, who overcame a demon. In northern India, people mark the return of Lord Rama, his wife Sita, and his brother Lakshmana after 14 years in exile. Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists honor important leaders.

Diwali is often celebrated for five days. On the first two days, people clean their homes, purchase

gold items, and put up colorful decorations. They light clay lamps and create colorful designs called *rangoli* with powder. The third day is Lakshmi Puja, when people worship the goddess of wealth, hold feasts, and light fireworks. On the final days, families gather and exchange gifts. In some parts of southern India, Diwali is often one day long.

Diwali is also celebrated in countries around the world, including Singapore, Australia, the UK, and Trinidad and Tobago. In the US, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Asian Art in Washington, DC, will hold a festival for families on November 1. The Diwali at Times Square event in New York City, billed as the largest Diwali event outside India, took place on October 19. And this year, Pennsylvania became the first US state to recognize Diwali as a holiday.

A HUGE HAUL

Amateur treasure hunters in the UK found a trove of ancient coins and sold them for \$5.6 million. Using a metal detector in a field, Adam Staples and six friends found one silver piece, then another, eventually digging up 2,584 coins that date back to about the year 1066.

They're known as a “hoard”—a group of objects buried for safekeeping. “I've got no complaints,” Staples said.



RIDING THE RAILS

The Borealis line—a new Amtrak train route between St. Paul, Minnesota, and Chicago, Illinois—reached 100,000 riders in 22 weeks, far exceeding projections of about 125,000 riders a year. Amtrak officials gave 100 Grand candy bars to passengers to celebrate.

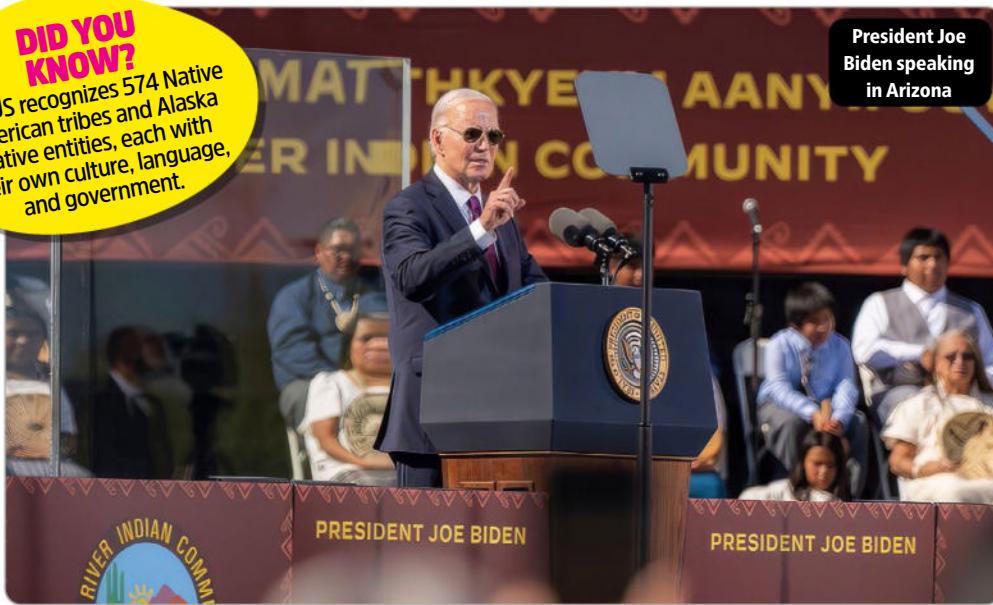




National news

DID YOU KNOW?

The US recognizes 574 Native American tribes and Alaska Native entities, each with their own culture, language, and government.



President Joe Biden speaking in Arizona

Who is Deb Haaland?



As head of the Department of the Interior, Deb Haaland (above) manages the nation's natural resources and cultural heritage. She is a member of the Pueblo of Laguna tribe and the first Native American to serve as a cabinet secretary. Previously, she was one of the first Native American women elected to Congress.

US apologizes for Native American schools

In a speech in Arizona on October 24, President Joe Biden issued a formal apology to Native Americans for the federal government's role in operating boarding schools that mistreated children over a 150-year period.

What happened at the schools?

From 1819 to 1969, at least 18,000 children were taken from Indigenous families and forced to attend more than 400 boarding schools across 37 states. (Indigenous means the first to inhabit a place.) A federal investigation launched by Deb Haaland, the secretary of the Department of the Interior (DOI), found that the schools used mental and physical abuse to try to erase the children's tribal identities and cultural heritage. At least 973 students died.

What did Biden say?

Biden is the first President to publicly apologize for the government's role in running the schools. In his remarks at the Gila Crossing Community School, which is located within the Gila River Indian Community, he acknowledged that "no apology can or will make up for what was lost during the darkness of the federal boarding school policy." He called it "one of the most horrific chapters" in US history, adding that "we're finally moving toward the light."

What did Haaland say?

Haaland said the government's apology was an important first step. "For decades, this terrible chapter was hidden from our history books," she told *The New York Times*. "But now our

administration's work will ensure no one will ever forget." She also praised the resilience of Indigenous people. "Despite everything that happened," she said, "we're still here."

What will happen next?

Many survivors of the schools said that while the apology is appreciated, the government needs to do more to address the injustices. The report called for steps to be taken to help Native Americans heal, such as providing counseling to survivors. It also suggested building a national memorial to honor the children who died and educate the public about what happened. Indigenous leaders also called on the government to help revitalize Native languages and cultures to make sure they aren't lost.



WORD OF THE WEEK

PASSPORT

The word "passport" came into English in the 15th century, when it described a letter or paper that allowed a person to travel to another country. It takes its name from the French *passeport*, which came to be because people often "passed" through a sea "port" to get to their destination.

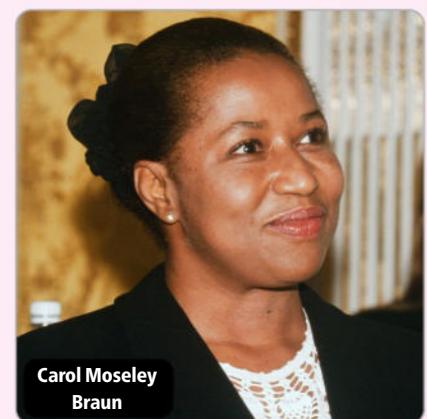


THE WEEK IN HISTORY

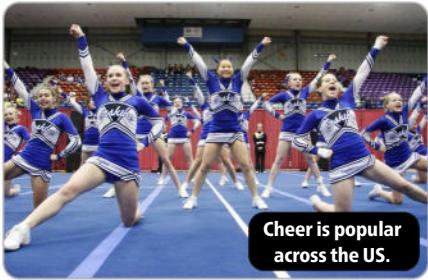
November 3, 1992

Carol Moseley Braun elected to Congress

On November 3, 1992, Carol Moseley Braun became the first Black woman elected to the US Senate (one half of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws). Previously, she had served in the Illinois State Legislature for nine years and had also worked as an environmental activist and lawyer. She is "a stepping stone for all of us, someone to look up to," a colleague said after her victory.



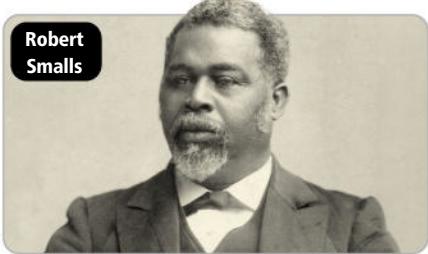
Carol Moseley Braun



Cheer is popular across the US.

A call to make cheerleading safer

The American Academy of Pediatrics, a group of 67,000 doctors, said cheerleading should be formally recognized as a sport, similar to soccer or basketball. More than 3.5 million children, ages 6 to 17, participate in cheer, and doctors have reported an increase in serious injuries, such as fractures and concussions, from doing the activity's stunts and tumbles. Recognizing cheer as a sport would increase oversight, which could reduce the risk of injury.



Robert Smalls

New statue in South Carolina

South Carolina will erect an individual statue of a Black person on its statehouse lawn for the first time, after state officials voted in favor of it. The statue will honor Robert Smalls (1839–1915), who escaped slavery and rescued others before being elected to serve as one of the first Black members of the US House of Representatives. A committee will reveal the statue's design by January 15.



Movies cited as top teen activity

Teenagers prefer going to see a movie on opening weekend above all other forms of entertainment, including watching sports and playing video games, according to a survey of 1,644 young people by the University of California, Los Angeles. Respondents ranked fantasy as their favorite TV and movie genre, and 64% said they valued stories about friendship over romance.



Arts and humanities medals presented

The White House hosted a combined ceremony on October 21 to recognize the 2022 and 2023 recipients of the National Medal of Arts and the National Humanities Medal. President Joe Biden presented medals to 39 people, celebrating their significant contributions to the nation. This year's ceremony combined two years' worth of honorees due to delays related to the pandemic.

The National Medal of Arts, which was established in 1984 by Congress (the branch of government that makes laws), is the country's top honor for achievements in the arts.

Among the 20 recipients was Steven Spielberg, director of more than 32 films including *E.T.* and the *Indiana Jones* franchise. Another honoree was Ken Burns, whose documentary films on topics such as baseball and the Civil War have expanded people's knowledge of US culture and history.

Another arts medal recipient, Mexican American actress and producer Eva Longoria, was honored for breaking barriers for Latinos in Hollywood. Idina Menzel, the voice of *Frozen*'s Elsa

HIGH HONOR
The first recipients of the National Medal of Arts in 1985 included composer Elliott Carter, dancer Martha Graham, and artist Georgia O'Keeffe.

and the original Elphaba in *Wicked* on Broadway, was recognized for "magical songs that lift our spirits and stir our souls." Other notable honorees include award-winning filmmaker Spike Lee and hip-hop pioneer Queen Latifah.

The National Humanities Medal—which was founded in 1988 as the Charles Frankel

Prize and renamed in 1997 by the National Endowment for the Humanities—celebrates Americans whose work deepens our understanding of history, literature, and philosophy. The honorees included actor LeVar Burton, a literacy advocate who hosted

the children's TV series *Reading Rainbow*, and author and cartoonist Roz Chast, who has published more than 900 cartoons in the *New Yorker* magazine. Journalist and historian Jon Meacham, who has written acclaimed books about several US Presidents, also received a medal.

In his remarks, Biden said the honorees are an inspiration to future generations. "You are the masters of your craft who have made America better with all that you have done," he said.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Mystery lemur found wandering loose in Houston park" UPI





Around the world



Recycling with Re-turn

Norway New age limit for social media

Norway's government announced plans to raise the minimum age limit for social media to 15 from the current age of 13. The government also plans to introduce more safeguards to prevent children from bypassing the age restrictions. Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre said, "Children must be protected from harmful content on social media."



Norwegian teenagers

Ireland

Vending machines help recycle

A program launched in February has encouraged people in Ireland to donate more than 600 million cans and bottles to be recycled. Called Re-turn, the program uses "reverse vending machines" where people can get money back for recycling bottles and cans. Re-turn has reduced the amount of trash on Ireland's streets and raised money for charity. More than 110 million containers are returned each month.



Sweets in Mexico

Mexico

Cutting down on junk food in schools

Schools in Mexico have six months to eliminate junk food under a new ban issued by the government. Schools that don't comply will have to pay fines. The intention is to safeguard the health of Mexico's children. The country's new president, Claudia Sheinbaum, said she wants schools to provide more nutritious snacks, such as bean tacos rather than chips, and install water fountains instead of offering soft drinks.



A village covered in mud



Brazil

Companies to pay for dam disaster

Two mining companies will pay nearly \$23 billion to the Brazilian government for a 2015 dam collapse that was the worst environmental disaster in Brazil's history. The companies BHP and Vale owned the Mariana Dam, which collapsed and poured tons of toxic sludge into villages, rivers, and forests. The money will help victims to rebuild and fund environmental recovery.



Pelion, Greece Extreme weather threatens chestnut harvest

This year's chestnut harvest in Greece is expected to total 16,500 tons, which is half the average amount produced per year for the past five years. Greece is one of the world's largest producers of the fruit. However, after months of extreme heat and drought (a long period without rain), farmers report that many of their chestnuts have not ripened and are not suitable to harvest.



A chestnut tree in Greece

Around the world



One of the Moomin murals



Helsinki, Finland Art show with hidden Moomins

A collection of art by Finnish author Tove Jansson, creator of the Moomins literary characters, is on display for the first time. The exhibition opened on October 25 at the Helsinki Art Museum to mark the 80th anniversary of the Moomins. Murals in the show were created by Jansson for public spaces, including hospitals, and feature hidden Moomins.



Counting the votes



Paterson, Australia

A special day out for dogs
The Dachshtober Longdog Festival brought together dachshunds and their owners from across Australia on October 27. The festival was a day of dog-inspired fun, from food and shopping to costume contests. The event was held to raise awareness and funds for intervertebral disc disease (IVDD), a spine condition that is found more frequently in dachshunds than in other dog breeds.



A dachshund at the event



Vladimir Putin with world leaders



Kazan, Russia Summit hosted by Vladimir Putin

Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted a summit with world leaders on October 22. The leaders are part of a group called BRICS, which stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa and now has nine member countries. Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, Putin has become isolated from other nations. At the summit, Indian President Narendra Modi called for "peace and stability" between Russia and Ukraine.



Protesters in Mozambique



Mozambique Protests over presidential winner

On October 27, it was announced that Daniel Chapo from the party that has ruled Mozambique for 49 years was elected president with 71% of the vote, defeating his main opponent, Venancio Mondlane. Protesters said the results were rigged and have clashed with police. More than 50 people were injured, and at least 11 have died. Chapo will take office in January.



The big debate

Should the space station be saved?

The International Space Station is on track to be removed from orbit in a few years.

What you need to know

- **The International Space Station (ISS)** is a scientific hub that orbits about 250 miles from Earth.
- **Construction of the ISS began in 1998.** Since 2000, more than 265 astronauts from 20 countries have lived there.
- **Many of the structures and materials used to build the ISS were meant to last no more than 30 years.**
- **In 2030, the ISS is scheduled to stop operating.** NASA and its partners then plan to remove it from orbit and drop it into the ocean.

The ISS is one of the greatest scientific achievements in history, with a mission to "learn how humanity can better live and work in space and to return the benefits of this research to people on the ground," according to NASA. The ISS was assembled over multiple space missions by space agencies from 15 countries. It wasn't meant to last forever, though, and continuing to use it as a scientific base would pose real challenges. Scientists considered several options for the ISS's future but ultimately decided that pulling it from orbit and dropping it into the ocean makes the most sense. What do you think? Should the space station be saved?

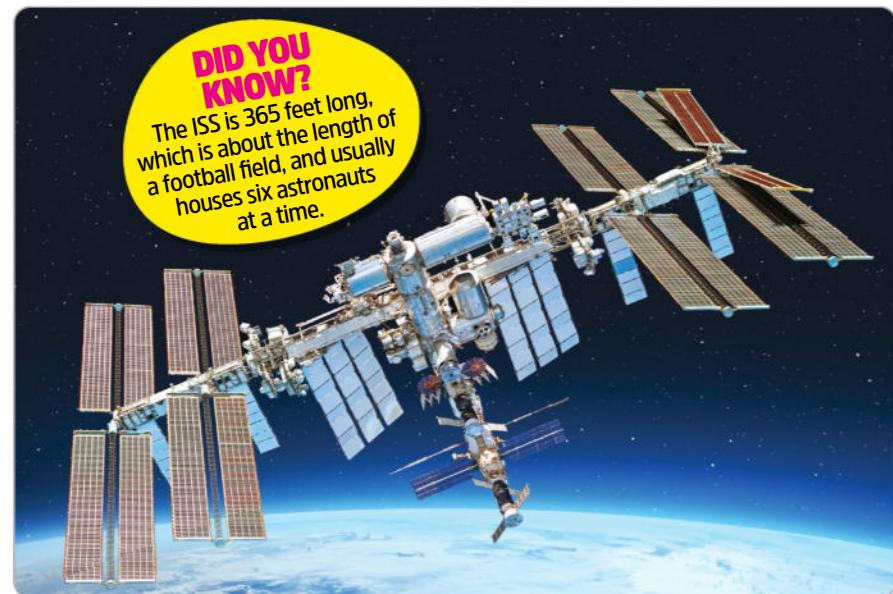
YES Three reasons the space station should be saved

- 1 The ISS is aging but isn't required to stop operating in 2030, so there's no rush to destroy it now.
- 2 The space station has historical importance, and there are ways to preserve it for future generations.
- 3 Some parts of the ISS could be reused, which would be less wasteful.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think the space station should be saved or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.



Yes—it's too important

The ISS is still in good condition and could possibly keep working after 2030, so there's no urgent need to destroy it. And there are alternatives, such as pushing it into a higher orbit or taking it apart in space and returning the pieces to Earth. Individual sections of the ISS could be displayed at a museum for the public to appreciate. The ISS is worth preserving for future generations as a historical symbol of scientific development and international cooperation, as well as a feat of engineering. If NASA and other space agencies could save the ISS, some parts of it could be redeveloped and reused for new purposes, like the next space station.

No—it's time to look ahead

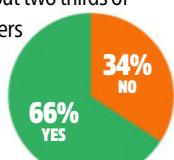
To stay in orbit, the ISS would require a full-time crew and regular maintenance. That's a lot of effort and expense for an aging space station that's showing signs of age, like air leaks. And scientists have said none of the other alternatives would work. Taking it apart and returning it to Earth would require new technology, which would have to be developed. And if the ISS stays in space, it could be damaged or break apart, creating dangerous space debris or even crashing down to Earth. NASA and other agencies are designing modern facilities to replace the ISS, which will move space exploration into the future.

NO Three reasons the space station should not be saved

- 1 Keeping the ISS in orbit would require time, effort, and money that are better spent elsewhere.
- 2 The world's top space experts have said that trying to bring the ISS back to Earth and put it on display won't work.
- 3 The end of the ISS paves the way for new scientific innovation.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if Election Day should be a national holiday. About two thirds of you said voters should have a day off to cast their ballots.



The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



Playing with passion

Charlie Cooper is winning big and inspiring other disabled athletes.

At age 16, American wheelchair tennis star Charlie Cooper is making history in his sport. In May, he and his teammates on the US junior national team won the World Team Cup Championship. Then, in September, he won the junior boys' singles wheelchair event at the US Open and became the first American wheelchair tennis player to win a Grand Slam, one of the top four tennis competitions in the world.

Cooper, who lives in Southern California, has spina bifida, a birth defect that affects the spine. He has difficulty walking, and he wore leg braces for many years. At around age 11, he was in a guitar shop and met someone with the same disability who told him about a local wheelchair tennis clinic. Cooper decided to check it out and instantly fell in love with it.



Holding his US Open trophy

Getting involved in the sport changed his life. "I was a kid who wasn't able to play on a team," Cooper told *The Week Junior*. "This opens up the greatest opportunities." He said wheelchair athletes train just as hard as able-bodied players. He puts in hours of practice each week and also travels around the US and the world to train and compete.

Currently ranked number eight in junior wheelchair tennis in the US, he is working toward becoming the best player in the world and representing the US at the 2028 Paralympics. At the same time, he hopes to inspire other young athletes with disabilities. "For those in search of purpose, this can be your answer," Cooper said. "Even though it may feel like a 'disability,' it is just an ability to find your dream and purpose in life."



Charlie Cooper

SPORTS HISTORY

Wheelchair tennis was established in 1976 by former US freestyle skier Brad Parks.

A teen climate hero

Ellyanne Wanjiku Chlystun, a 14-year-old from Kenya, is gaining global recognition for her environmental efforts. Since founding the nonprofit Children With Nature in 2017, she has planted more than 1.3 million trees worldwide. She has also raised awareness of the link between climate change and health problems and, in 2023, became the youngest global ambassador for the organization Zero Malaria. Her goal is to plant 1 trillion trees by age 18. "Everything is possible, especially for me as a young person," she told the BBC.



Ellyanne Wanjiku Chlystun



John Leguizamo

Sharing his heritage

Award-winning actor John Leguizamo, who was born in Colombia, is shining a light on Hispanic heritage in the new three-part series on PBS, *VOCES American Historia: The Untold History of Latinos*. Leguizamo, age 64, moved to the US as a child and grew up in Queens, New York. He has appeared in more than 100 films and shows. One of his roles is Bruno in the film *Encanto*. In his PBS series, he travels across the US to meet Latino activists and entrepreneurs. Leguizamo, who co-created the series, hopes it serves as a kind of textbook about Latino contributions to the country.

OVERHEARD



"I find sketch comedy and middle school very similar... there can be an unabashed silliness in middle grade that I have found only in sketch comedy."

Former *Saturday Night Live* star Kate McKinnon, age 40, who wrote *The Millicent Quibb School of Etiquette for Young Ladies of Mad Science*, a new middle-grade mystery book about struggling to fit in



Animals and the environment

DIVE MASTERS

Elephants can breathe while underwater by using their trunks as snorkels.



Water anoles have a useful skill.

Breathing underwater

Most of the Earth's seas contain plenty of oxygen, but instead of breathable air, it's dissolved in the water. To breathe underwater, fish have gills that pull in oxygen and release waste gas. Sea stars take oxygen from water when it flows over bumps on their skin and grooves in their tube feet.



A sea star

Lizards use bubbles to breathe

A new study has found that water anoles have a special technique for breathing underwater, which they can use as a last resort to escape from predators.

Water anoles are small lizards—about the size of a pencil—that live near streams and waterfalls in South and Central America. When they spot a bird or snake, they usually stay very still to try to avoid being eaten. As an alternative, sometimes the lizards will dash into a nearby crack in a rock to hide.

If those strategies fail, a water anole will dive into a stream. As it does, it breathes out to form a bubble of air over its nostrils. Tiny bubbles also form on its skin and combine with the bigger



Storing air in a bubble

nostril bubble. The anole can then breathe the bubble back in through its nose. Scientists knew this, but they didn't know whether this big bubble actually helped the lizards by allowing them to stay underwater for longer.

To investigate this, Lindsey Swierk at Binghamton University in New York applied a substance to water anoles' skin that prevented bubbles from forming. She measured how long these lizards were able to stay underwater, compared with water anoles that did not have the substance applied to their skin.

The water anoles without the substance were able to stay underwater for 32% longer than those with it. This suggests

that the bubbles are formed with a purpose—helping the lizards breathe underwater for a longer time while they make their escape.

This ability is especially important for water anoles, which are very vulnerable to predators. So many other animals eat water anoles that Swierk describes them as the "chicken nuggets of the forest."

"By jumping in the water they can escape a lot of their predators, and they remain very still underwater," she said. "Once underwater, they are very hard to detect through the moving stream surface."

In the study, the water anoles stayed underwater for only a few minutes, but they can stay beneath the surface for as long as 20 minutes in the wild. That may be long enough for a hungry snake or bird to give up on the hunt, allowing the lizard to stay alive.



PLACE OF THE WEEK

Jim Corbett National Park, India

Jim Corbett National Park, named after a famous naturalist, was established in 1936 as India's first national park. Located near the Himalayas mountain range, the forested wildlife refuge is known for having the most tigers of any national park in the country. Attractions include the Garjya Devi Temple, the Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Corbett Waterfall, a popular picnic spot. Visitors can also go rafting in the River Kosi and take jeep safaris. In addition to Bengal tigers, people may see Asian elephants, leopards, bears, deer, and more than 650 types of birds.



About 260 tigers live in the park.



FORCE OF NATURE

In 2017, a new species was named the Skywalker hoolock gibbon, after Luke Skywalker from Star Wars.

A female crested gibbon makes a move.

Crested gibbons like to dance

Many people enjoy dancing, whether they're at a party with other people or at home on their own. A team of scientists has discovered that humans aren't the only dancers—crested gibbons like to bop to the beat too.

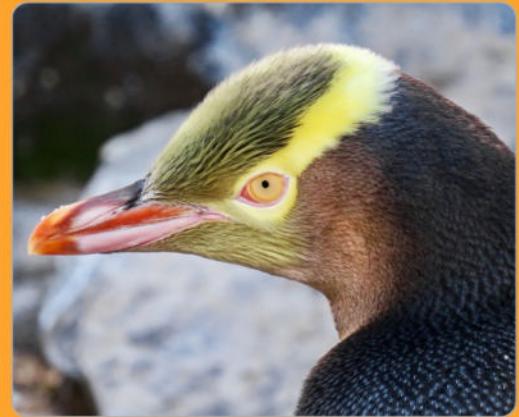
Dancing gibbons were first noticed in 2016, when Chinese researchers saw video footage of four female crested gibbons performing different movements—apparently to attract a male gibbon's attention. In a new study, scientists looked at the gibbons' movements, which included

swaying from side to side and pausing to do theatrical poses. They found that the movements are structured, have a rhythm, and share some similarities with human dancing. One scientist compared their routine to the robot dance.

Females in the wild seem to dance to attract a mate, but they also do it in zoos and wildlife parks when humans are watching. Videos appear to show them checking to see whether anyone is looking before they bust a move. Scientists say they are the only non-human primates known to dance.

Animal of the Week

Hoiho



Voters chose this shy, fishy-smelling penguin as New Zealand's bird of the year in an online contest. The hoiho, which means "noise shouter" in the Māori language, typically prefers to live alone and may be the world's rarest penguin.

- **LIFE SPAN:** Up to 25 years
- **HABITAT:** Coastal forests in New Zealand
- **SIZE:** About 2 to 3 feet tall, 8 to 20 pounds
- **DIET:** Fish and squid
- **FUN FACT:** A hoiho, also known as a yellow-eyed penguin, appears on New Zealand's \$5 bill.



Good week / Bad week



Night parrots

Experts in Australia have discovered the largest known population of night parrots, one of the country's rarest birds. About 50 of the secretive birds were found living and nesting in the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

Pawpaws

Changing weather patterns are affecting North America's largest native fruit, the pawpaw. Farmers in Ohio and Kentucky report that extreme temperatures and long periods without rain are causing smaller harvests and bitter fruits.



David Grimaldi

Invertebrates curator, American Museum of Natural History

Moths typically use special sensors on top of their head to navigate by moonlight, but they will also use porch lights and candlelight. Because these lights are low instead of high in the sky, moths fly sideways to keep their sensors pointed to the light, so they end up flying in circles!

"Why are moths attracted to flames?" Charlie, 8, Washington



Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about the American Museum of Natural History at amnh.org.



What's that?*

A powerful place in

Wall Street represents the heart of the US business industry.

Wall Street is the name of a street that runs for about eight blocks in the southern part of Manhattan, a borough of New York City. Wall Street is also much more than that.

What is Wall Street?

The street and the area immediately around it are known as the Financial District. The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is located on Wall Street, and the Federal Reserve Bank of New

York is located in the Financial District. The term "Wall Street," as it is commonly used today, does not refer to a physical location but to big business in the US as a whole. Citibank, Morgan Stanley, JP Morgan Chase, and Goldman Sachs are some of the largest Wall Street businesses.



How the industry works

The NYSE is a place where stocks (portions of a company that can be owned by the public) are bought and sold. It is the biggest stock exchange in the world, with billions of stock trades happening every day. People who handle buying and selling stocks on behalf of clients are known as stockbrokers. Another major Wall Street business is investment banking. One of the main things investment banks do is help companies with complicated business deals. Some other jobs done by people who work on Wall Street are financial analyst and financial adviser. Wall Street gets criticized too, with some people arguing that the financial industry has too much power and influence in the US.



The New York Stock Exchange became a National Historic Landmark in 1978.

The bell and the bull

Each day the brass bells of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) ring at 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time when the stock market opens and at 4 p.m. when it closes. Four electronic bells in the building are operated together by a single control panel. A tradition is to invite guests to ring the bell. Ringers have included famous athletes, Broadway stars, and business leaders

celebrating their companies' "going public" — becoming available on the stock market.

Charging Bull, a bronze sculpture that is 16 feet long and weighs three and a half tons, is one of the most famous landmarks in the Financial District. It was made by sculptor Arturo Di Modica to represent a bullish (strong) market. With help from friends, Di Modica secretly placed it in front of the NYSE one night in 1989. The bull was later moved nearby, where it still stands today.



our financial history



DID YOU KNOW?

A "bull market" refers to a market where stock prices are rising. A "bear market" is when stock prices are falling.

FUN FACT
On April 30, 1789, George Washington took his oath of office as the first US President at Federal Hall on Wall Street.



Signing the Buttonwood Agreement

How it started

Business on Wall Street began when a slave market was established there in 1711. It remained open until 1762, although New York state did not officially end slavery until 1827. In the late 1700s, stock traders began doing business on Wall Street under a buttonwood, or sycamore, tree. These traders signed the Buttonwood Agreement in 1792, which required business on the street to be done through approved stockbrokers. The New York Stock and Exchange Board, which was modeled after a similar organization in Philadelphia, was created in 1817. The first stock ticker, which tracks changes in the prices of stocks and other financial products, was introduced in 1867. In 1884, the Dow Jones average was introduced to track overall stock market activity.



Wall Street today

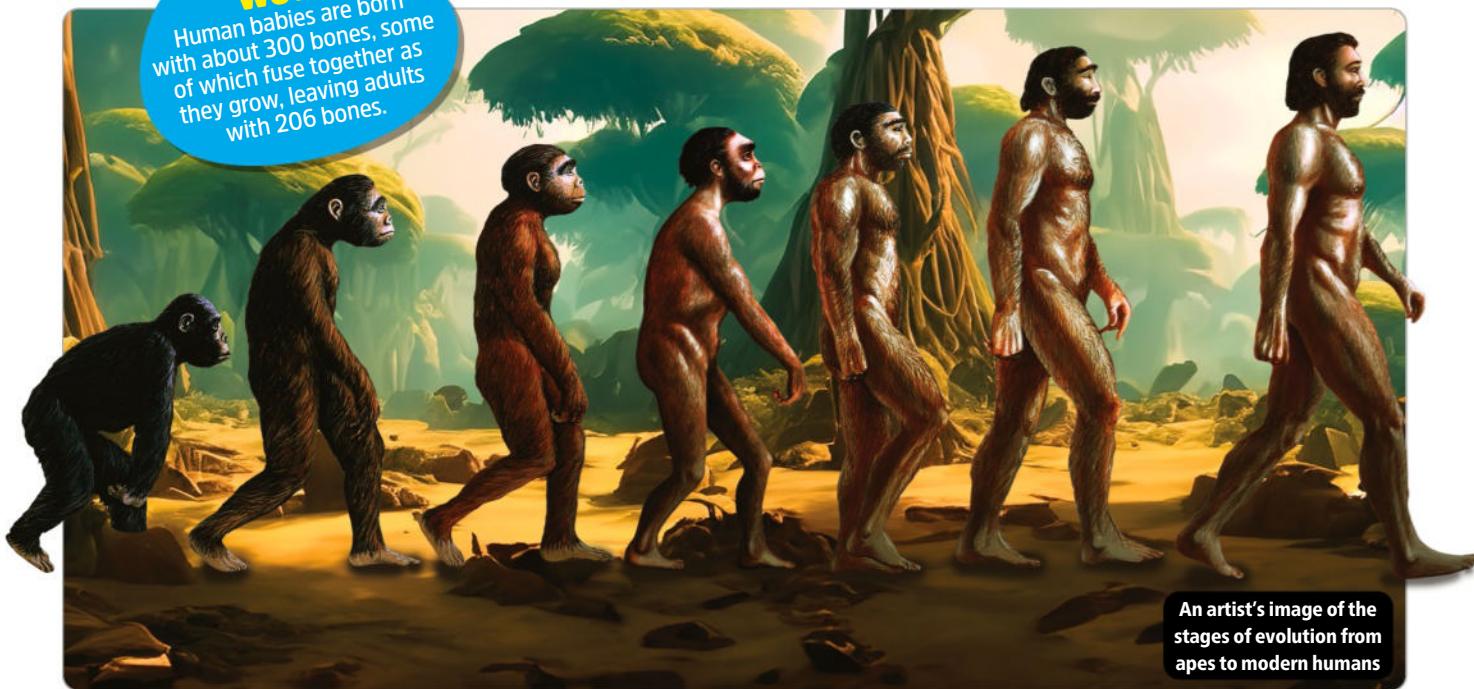
The current NYSE building (shown at left) opened on Wall Street in 1903. A crisis hit Wall Street and the nation when the stock market crashed in 1929, triggering the Great Depression (period from 1929 to the late 1930s when unemployment soared). The NASDAQ, another method for tracking market activity, was launched in 1971. Today, there are more than 2,300 companies listed on the NYSE, and nearly \$19 billion worth of stocks are bought and sold on it every day.



Above: The Harlem Globetrotters ring the bell. Right: Charging Bull.

**WOW!**

Human babies are born with about 300 bones, some of which fuse together as they grow, leaving adults with 206 bones.



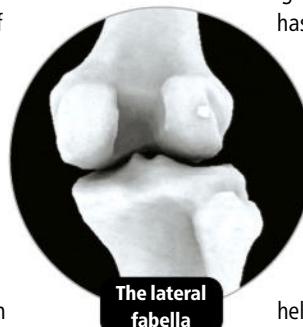
An artist's image of the stages of evolution from apes to modern humans

Did a tiny bone let humans walk?

More than a third of humans have a tiny bone in their knee called the lateral fabella. This bone is the size of a sesame seed—in fact, the word *fabella* is Latin for “little bean.” Its purpose has puzzled scientists for a long time. Now researchers from King’s College London in the UK think it might have developed in order to help humans walk on two legs.

Scientists studied 93 types of primates (group of mammals including lemurs, monkeys, and humans). They found that most primates have a lateral fabella, along with another small bone called the medial fabella. Humans, however, have only a lateral fabella.

This arrangement of bones in early humans could have affected their evolution (process of changing slowly over time). Michael Berthaume, an engineer and anthropologist (person who studies human societies and culture) who led the study, said, “Using this bone in a new way could have helped early humans go from walking on all fours to walking upright.” The bone “could be the sign of an exaptation, when something in the body already exists and then begins to be used



The lateral fabella

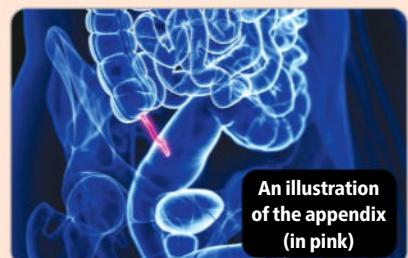
for another purpose,” Berthaume said. However, the researchers aren’t sure exactly how this tiny bone contributed to such a big change in early humans, from being quadrupedal (walking on four legs) to bipedal (walking on two legs).

The team is also puzzled by the fact that not all humans have a lateral fabella today, although the number of people with them has increased in recent years. Only 11% of the human population had them 100 years ago, but now about 39% do.

The researchers believe the lateral fabella may be getting more common in humans because people have better nutrition these days, which helps them grow taller and weigh more than they used to. This puts more pressure on the knees and makes it more likely for the tiny bone to form.

Previous research has found that people are twice as likely to have a lateral fabella if they have osteoarthritis, a condition that causes joints to become painful and stiff. The research team hopes to learn more about how the lateral fabella affects human movement and its link to osteoarthritis, which could help doctors treat the condition.

Outdated body parts



An illustration of the appendix (in pink)

The bodies of modern humans have some parts that don’t appear to have a purpose—but may have had one a long time ago. For example, humans still have a coccyx (tailbone). It’s left over from when our ape ancestors had tails, which they lost about 25 million years ago. Although the coccyx helps us sit upright today, it isn’t technically necessary for our survival.

Another body part without a clear function is the appendix, which is attached to the large intestine in the digestive system. It is thought to have helped our plant-eating ancestors digest their food. People don’t need them now—in fact, if the appendix gets infected (a condition known as appendicitis), doctors often surgically remove it.



Scientists use AI to find ancient artwork

Scientists used artificial intelligence (AI, when a computer imitates human learning) to identify 303 ancient works of art in the Nazca Desert in Peru. Known as the Nazca Lines, the geoglyphs (designs made on the ground) were created between 200 BCE and 650 CE.

The Nazca civilization was a group of Indigenous people (first people known to have lived in a place). They made the designs by removing reddish rocks and gravel to reveal light-colored sand underneath. The geometric shapes, lines, and pictograms of animals, plants, and human-like figures range from about 1,200 feet to 30 miles long. Because of their size, the Nazca Lines are best viewed from above, by aircraft or drone. Their purpose remains a mystery.

DID YOU KNOW?
The Nazca Lines in Peru are a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which means they will be protected and preserved.

The lines were first spotted by airplane passengers in 1927. In the following decades, scientists identified about 430 individual geoglyphs, mostly by studying satellite images. The process was slow, however, and many of the faintest lines were easily missed by the

human eye. For many years, scientists have believed that many geoglyphs remained undiscovered.

To refine the search, a team of researchers trained an AI program to scan through satellite images 20 times faster than humans and identify faint lines that could be geoglyphs. The researchers then visited those sites in person to confirm the findings. They believe they can use the technology to find at least 240 more figures.



Some of the newly found Nazca Lines



Taking trips can boost your mood and health.

Travel can help keep people young

Scientists in Australia have discovered that traveling, and the positive experiences that come with it, could slow down the aging process and help people live longer.

The researchers believe this is the case because travel often includes social interaction, mental stimulation, physical activity, time in nature, and healthy food. All these factors have been found to improve people's well-being by reducing stress, relieving tension,

bolstering the immune system, and improving circulation.

In addition to boosting people's health and improving how their bodies function, the positive effects of travel could also prevent future medical issues from developing.

The scientists said more research is needed to create a fuller picture of the health effects of traveling. Future studies will also take people with pre-existing conditions, such as chronic illnesses, into account.



Floor panels that provide power



The solar panels

As the world moves toward renewable energy, scientists and experts are working on new ways to harness solar power. A company in Turkey has created "walkable solar panels" that can be installed in the floor and ground to absorb sunlight and generate electricity.

The panels are built to withstand foot traffic, bumps, scuffs, and scrapes. They can be installed indoors or outdoors, in homes, businesses, public spaces, and other areas. The panels also gather data on energy use and store power that can be used another time.



Photos of the week



Laugh out loud

Ingo Hamann snapped this photograph of a baby seal in Germany.

Strike a pose

This image of a hippo in profile was taken by Artur Stankiewicz in Zimbabwe.

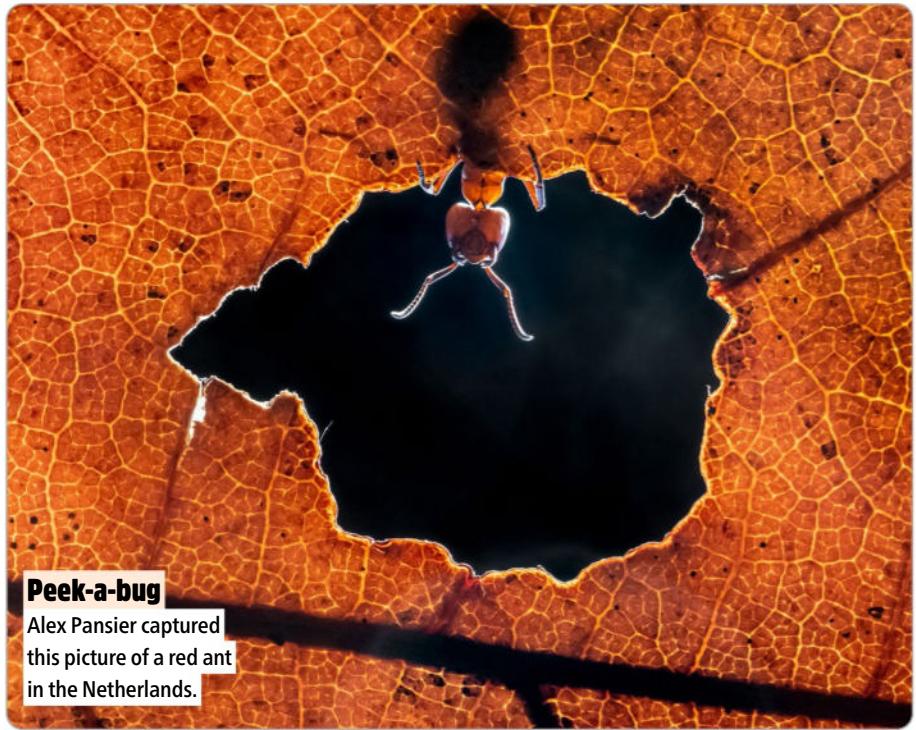


Open wide

This shot of a ground squirrel was taken by Kath Aggiss in Austria.



Photos of the week



Peek-a-bug

Alex Pansier captured this picture of a red ant in the Netherlands.



Seeing stripes

Zebras in Kenya create an optical illusion in this image by Sarosh Lodhi.



Leaping lemur

This photo of a sifaka in motion was shot by Andy Rouse in Madagascar.



Sports

FUN FACT
The shortest person to ever play in the NBA was Muggsy Bogues, who is 5-foot-3.



LeBron James (left) and his son Bronny

Global game



The NBA's opening night rosters included 125 players from 43 countries outside the US. A record number came from Australia (13), Germany (8), and Cameroon (5). Every team has at least one international player. One star is the Denver Nuggets' Nikola Jokic (above), who is from Serbia.

Historic start to the NBA season

The 2024–2025 NBA (National Basketball Association) regular season tipped off on October 22. The defending champions are the Boston Celtics, and they are expected to be strong contenders to repeat their title. Some of the other top teams this season will likely be the Oklahoma City Thunder, New York Knicks, Denver Nuggets, and Dallas Mavericks, the team that lost to the Celtics in last season's Finals.

On opening night, NBA history was made during the Los Angeles Lakers' 110–103 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves, when Lakers star LeBron James and Lakers rookie Bronny James became the first father-son duo



Jayson Tatum

to share the court. LeBron, age 39 and the oldest player in the NBA, was in the game's starting lineup, while Bronny, age 20, began it on the bench. Late in the second quarter, after LeBron had been sitting out for a break, the pair checked into the game together and played for about two and a half minutes. After the game, LeBron called their check-in "a moment I'm never going to forget." That same night, the Celtics got off to a hot start by beating the Knicks, 132–109. Celtics players made 29 three-pointers, tying the NBA record for the most in a game. Celtics star Jayson Tatum made eight of his 11 three-point attempts and had 37 points in all.

In other exciting first-week action, the Phoenix Suns beat the Los Angeles Clippers, 116–113, in overtime on October 23. The Suns' Bradley Beal scored seven of his team's 13 points in the extra period. Kevin Durant led Phoenix in scoring with 25 points. Three days later, in a game against the Mavericks, Durant scored the 29,000th point of his career. He is the eighth NBA player to reach that number. On October 28, the Orlando Magic beat the Indiana Pacers, 119–115. It was a huge night for the Magic's young star Paolo Banchero, who scored 37 points in the first half and finished with a total of 50. He became the first player of the season to score that many points in a single game.

After the first week of play, three teams remained undefeated: the Celtics, the Cleveland Cavaliers, and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

On October 27, the Washington Commanders beat the Chicago Bears, 18–15. The Commanders won on the last play of the game, when rookie quarterback Jayden Daniels threw a 52-yard Hail Mary (long shot to succeed) pass. The ball was tipped by a Bears player and caught by the Commanders' Noah Brown in the end zone. The win brought their record to 6–2. They are in first in their division.



The Washington Commanders (left) and the Chicago Bears

COLLEGE FIELD HOCKEY

The 16th-ranked University of Iowa upset the third-ranked Ohio State University, 3–0, at Ohio State on October 27.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

In the 10th inning of Game 1 of the World Series on October 25, Los Angeles Dodgers star Freddie Freeman hit a walk-off grand slam to beat the New York Yankees, 6–3. It was the first walk-off grand slam in World Series history.



STAR PLAYER

The NWSL's Temwa Chawinga recently scored her 19th goal this season, setting a new single-season record in the league.



The Kansas City Current

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Taylor Huff

AGE: 22 SPORT: SOCCER

TEAM: FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Born to play Within a week of my birth, I was at a soccer field for my sister's game. She was always playing, and my dad coached her. I wanted to be like her, and that's how I got my start in the sport. I played many different sports growing up, though, and it wasn't until seventh or eighth grade that I knew I really wanted to focus on soccer.

Good game I like to compete and win, so that's my favorite thing about soccer. I also like figuring out how a team plays and how I can escape them and get to the goal. Finding ways through their lines can be a challenge, and I like that.



Seeing stars Growing up, I had two role models: Alex Morgan and Carli Lloyd.

Write on I like to write in a journal. It helps me get my thoughts out so I can be in a good mental space and I'm able to play freely.

Class act Balancing soccer and school is hard. I'm a big planner, so knowing when assignments are due and when I'm going to have time to finish my homework is important. Doing things in advance and getting ahead has really helped me.

Top moment My biggest accomplishment so far was winning the national championship last year. We worked hard for an entire year—the season starts in January and ends in December. It was an insane, fun, and rewarding experience.

Best advice Master basic skills and do them well. I always go back to the basics when I'm training, even to this day.

KC Current win inter-league cup final

In July, the NWSL (National Women's Soccer League) and Liga MX Femenil, the top women's soccer league in Mexico, began competing in the first-ever NWSL x Liga MX Femenil Summer Cup. The tournament included all 14 NWSL clubs and the top six Liga MXF teams. The final was played on October 25 at Toyota Field in San Antonio, Texas, and featured two NWSL teams: the Kansas City Current and NJ/NY Gotham FC. The champions were the Current, who won, 2–0.

NWSL teams dominated Summer Cup, and four made the semifinals: the Current, Gotham FC, Angel City FC, and the North Carolina Courage. Most of the matches were held during the Olympic break, so NWSL players who are members of the USWNT (US Women's National Team) did not take part in them. The final also

took place when the USWNT members had a competition. As a result, many of Gotham's players were replacements.

Since early September, both the Current and Gotham had been unbeaten in NWSL matches, and their most recent head-to-head game ended in a tie. This time, however, the Current dominated, with forward Temwa Chawinga scoring twice in the first half. Although Gotham had possession of the ball for more than 60% of the match, they were unable to find a way through Kansas City's defense. Throughout the tournament, the Current allowed their opponents to score only two goals in five games.

Gotham and the Current now return to NWSL action. Both teams have made the playoffs, which are scheduled to begin on November 9.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: Joey Rodriguez

Team: The Generals (baseball)

"Coach Joey is a great coach and a great dad. He's always there for me and the team, telling us to keep our heads up even through the toughest games. He teaches us to have fun, do our best, and enjoy the game. He never really cares whether we win or lose. He's always smiling and rooting for us and has the best mentality. He loves the sport and is always willing to help out and listen to the team. He is an awesome, inspiring leader!" Noah, 11, Illinois



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.



Arts and entertainment



Swan Lake

DANCE HISTORY

The first production of *Swan Lake* was performed in 1877 by the Russian Imperial Ballet in Moscow, Russia.

Famous ballet on the big screen

A performance of *Swan Lake* by the Paris Opera Ballet is coming to IMAX and traditional movie theaters.

Dance fans will soon be able to watch one of the world's most popular ballets in an unlikely location: movie theaters. A new film stars members of the renowned Paris Opera Ballet performing *Swan Lake*. The movie will be shown not only in regular theaters but also on IMAX screens. It is the first ballet ever filmed in IMAX and was designed to be an experience that immerses audiences in the ballet's music and movement. *Swan Lake* premieres in IMAX theaters on November 8 and in standard theaters on November 10.



Swan Lake was created and composed between 1875 and 1876 by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, who also wrote *The Sleeping Beauty* and *The Nutcracker*. The story follows Prince Siegfried, who falls in love with Odette, a princess cursed to become a swan by the evil wizard Rothbart. The spell can be broken only by true love. Siegfried vows to save Odette, but Rothbart disguises his daughter, Odile, as the princess to trick him. The ballet is known for its beautiful music and themes of love and transformation.

The version of *Swan Lake* in the film features choreography by legendary

dancer Rudolf Nureyev. The production was filmed over four days at the Paris Opera. On two of the days, the dancers performed without an audience so cameras could be brought onstage and get close to the action during the dances. Odette and Odile are played by Sae Eun Park. She studied dance at Korea's National Academy of Ballet and has been with the Paris Opera Ballet since 2011. In 2021, she became the first Asian *danseuse étoile* (principal dancer) in the company.

The film will be released around the world with the goal of giving people a chance to watch a prestigious ballet performance that they otherwise may not have a chance to see.

3 more dance movies

Happy Feet

In this 2006 award-winning musical, Mumble is a penguin with a talent for tap dancing. He embarks on a journey away from home to find acceptance and purpose.



A Ballerina's Tale

Misty Copeland made history in 2015 when she became the first Black woman to be named a principal dancer of the American Ballet Theatre. This documentary from that year reveals how she reached the top of the ballet world and handled challenges along the way.



Step Up

The first of five *Step Up* films came out in 2006 and follows Tyler, a rebellious teen working at a performing arts school. He forms a bond with dance student Nora and helps her prepare for a showcase. It is rated PG-13.



Arts and entertainment



DID YOU KNOW?

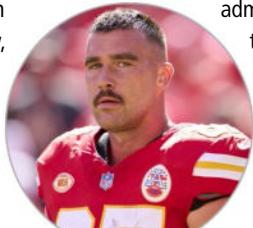
When Travis Kelce was in high school, he played on the football, basketball, and baseball teams.

Are You Smarter Than a Celebrity?

Travis Kelce hosts game show

One of the biggest stars in the NFL (National Football League) has a new side job. Travis Kelce, a tight end for the Kansas City Chiefs, is hosting *Are You Smarter Than a Celebrity?*, a game show that recently premiered on Prime Video.

The fun series is a spin-off of the show *Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?*, which ran from 2007 to 2019. On that show, the host quizzed an adult and a group of fifth graders on topics they learn in school. On the new show, the kids have been replaced by celebrities such as actor and comedian Ron Funches (the voice of Cooper in the *Trolls* movies) and former NFL player Chad "Ochocinco" Johnson, but it still features questions at an elementary school level. The subjects include social studies, grammar, and US history. The end of the game features a sixth-grade-level question and a \$100,000 prize.



Travis Kelce

Kelce grew up watching game shows with his brother, Jason, a retired NFL center. Some of the shows they liked were *The Price Is Right* and Nickelodeon's *Double Dare*. The Chiefs star, whose favorite subject in school was

math because it related to sports statistics, has admitted he was stumped by some of the questions on *Are You Smarter...?*

He told the Associated Press (AP) that the category he found most challenging was astronomy. "I didn't even know that was taught in elementary school," he said.

Kelce filmed the show's 20 episodes during the NFL offseason, a period when he also tried out acting. He plans to do more on-screen work in the future, but he told the AP his priority remains football. "I still love coming into work, getting after it, and chasing championships," he said.



READER RECOMMENDS

My Little Pony: Friendship Is Magic (Netflix, YouTube)

"I love this animated series because it is filled with twists, turns, and two-part episodes with cliff-hangers. My favorite episode is 'Sounds of Silence' in Season 8. In it, two of the ponies go on a friendship quest where they meet other ponies who don't speak because they don't want to hurt each other's feelings. Some of the characters in the show that I really like are the Mane Six, the Cutie Mark Crusaders, the Young Six, Starlight, and Trixie. I love how there is a friendship lesson in each episode, and I also love that not all episodes are about the Mane Six." Evelyn, 8, New York

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



San Diego: America's Wildest City

(PBS App) (PBS.org) (PBS)

November 6 at 8 p.m. ET

Find out about the remarkable wildlife living in San Diego County in Southern California, the most biologically diverse county in the US. This documentary showcases squirrels, aquatic birds called grebes, orcas, and other species.



Beyond Black Beauty (Amazon Prime)

This new series follows Jolie Dumont, a teen equestrian with Olympic dreams. After moving from Belgium to her family's old Maryland ranch, she bonds with a spirited horse and connects with her mother's heritage. The show is set in the present day but was inspired by an 1877 novel.



Kung Fu Panda 4 (Netflix)

In the latest installment of the popular franchise, Po, a slacker panda turned martial arts warrior, has been promoted to Spiritual Leader of the Valley of Peace. He does not like the new responsibility, but when a villain threatens his home, he has to prove he can be a hero.



On screen



Sonic x Shadow Generations

Time-travel with Sonic and Shadow

Sonic x Shadow Generations is a new action platform game. It is out now for the Nintendo Switch, Xbox systems, and PlayStation consoles.

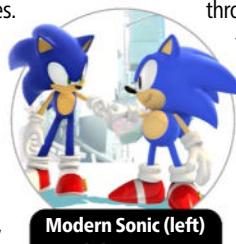
There are two games in Sonic x Shadow Generations. One is a remastered version of Sonic Generations, which came out in 2011 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first Sonic game. Generations sent Sonic and his sidekick, Tails, back in time on a tour of the franchise's most popular games.

In the classic and new version of the game, the story begins when evil Dr. Eggman meets a being called the Time Eater and they travel back in time to erase all of Dr. Eggman's failures. They begin in the first level of the original 1991 Sonic the Hedgehog game. They attempt to attack the old-school, 2D version of Sonic, but it sends Sonic and his friends back in time, too. Sonic winds up in the 1991 game and meets his 2D self. They

team up to find their friends, collect Chaos Emeralds, and defeat Dr. Eggman and the Time Eater. Gamers have to complete missions with both versions of Sonic, requiring side-scrolling and free-styling mastery.

The second game is new and stars Shadow the Hedgehog, one of the franchise's most popular side characters. His adventure also involves traveling through time. The tough-talking anti-hero has to make his way through five different levels in pursuit of Black Doom, who is his evil nemesis and technically also his father.

Shadow's game has more combat, and with his new Doom Powers, he can surf, fly, and wield a powerful spear. With Chaos Control, he can even slow down time as he tries to save the world. The game was designed to feel similar to Sonic's, but it has a darker tone that is fitting for the character.



Modern Sonic (left) and classic Sonic

PODCAST OF THE WEEK

LIVE FROM MOUNT OLYMPUS: PANDORA

Major podcast platforms

There is a new season of this award-winning story podcast that brings Greek myths to life. This time, the focus is on Pandora. In the classic myth, her curiosity leads to chaos being unleashed into the world, but this tale offers another side to her story.



WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

NERDLE

nerdlegame.com

This daily numbers puzzle, inspired by the popular word game Wordle, challenges players to guess an eight-character mathematical equation. The goal is to uncover the correct answer within six attempts. For each guess, you type in numbers, operators (+, -, x, ÷), and an equal sign.

PLAYLIST OF THE WEEK

MINECRAFT ESSENTIALS

Spotify

The music streaming platform Spotify has created a new playlist for fans of Minecraft. It celebrates the game's signature sound and includes 50 songs. You can hear tunes from the original soundtrack as well as remixes and fresh takes on familiar melodies.



OUR NOVEMBER
BOOK CLUB PICK

Out of My Dreams

By Sharon M. Draper

(Atheneum Books for Young Readers)

Melody has a dream one night that she's giving a speech. But she wakes up to the reality that she has cerebral palsy, uses a wheelchair, and can only communicate by typing on a computer. From her bedroom window, Melody sees her neighbor, Miss Gertie, fall on the sidewalk. Melody isn't able to get her family's attention, so she calls 911 on the computer. The operator sends help and Miss Gertie, who turns out to be a famous actress, is treated at the hospital. A TV station hears about Melody's quick thinking and invites her on the show. During her appearance, the station surprises Melody with an all-expenses-paid trip to London to attend a conference for exceptional young people. Miss Gertie and her grand-niece Sky travel there with Melody, and they go sightseeing together. Something happens that may unexpectedly make Melody's dream about giving a speech come true. While this is the third book in the Out of My Mind series, you don't need to have read the previous two books to enjoy it.

WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away one signed copy of *Out of My Dreams*.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to contests@theweekjunior.com with Dreams in the subject line. Enter by midnight on November 22. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR YOUR BOOK CLUB

With a fun setting and a main character who defies stereotypes, *Out of My Dreams* ends an award-winning trilogy. Here are questions to get a conversation going with friends and family who have also read the book.

What did you learn from Melody's challenges that would make you a better friend to someone who uses a wheelchair?

In what ways did the author weave humor into the book?

How do Melody and Sky become good friends?

What was your favorite place that Melody visits in London with Miss Gertie and Sky?

If you've read the first two books in the series, how do you think the tone in this story is different?

Are you satisfied with the conclusion of the series? Why or why not?



Ask the author

A former teacher, Sharon M. Draper has a knack for writing dialogue for tween and teen characters. *The Week Junior* spoke to her soon after *Out of My Dreams* was published.



What do you hope readers take away from this new book?

I want readers to know that Melody has found her voice in the world. She now has friends and a support system around her.



How did you begin your writing career?

In 1997, I was named National Teacher of the Year, and I got to travel for 12 months, meeting people around the world. After that, I decided to write full-time, but I really did enjoy my time teaching.

Did you read a lot as a child?

Every Saturday, my mom took me to the library. I read every book in the elementary section by the time I was 10 years old. I realized that I wasn't a fan of mysteries or science fiction, but I loved stories about kids in school.

How long did it take to write *Out of My Dreams*?

About two years, from start to finish. Books go through hundreds of edits!



Did you always plan on Melody's story being a series?

No, but when *Out of My Mind* was published in 2010, Melody became real for so many people. Her character isn't inspired by any one person, but I did spend time in a lot of classrooms with students who have special needs. Melody became a part of me, and that's when I decided to write two more books about her.

What's your writing advice for kids?

If you want to be a writer, you have to include the five senses. Convey as much sensory information as you can.



Favorite dish for Thanksgiving?

Turkey legs and cranberry sauce!



How to...



FUN FACT
About 29% of kids make their own dinner at least some of the time.

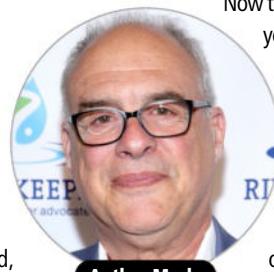
Get to know your kitchen

A famous cookbook author shares how kids can boost their cooking confidence.

The best way to get started with cooking—or improve the skills you already have—is to make friends with your kitchen, says Mark Bittman. “Exploring the kitchen—opening drawers and doors, seeing what’s in the fridge, learning about knives and tools—is the best way to begin cooking,” Bittman, author of the new book *How to Cook Everything Kids*, told *The Week Junior*. Here’s how to get started.

Begin with the ingredients

The first thing you’ll want to know about your kitchen is what ingredients—all the different food and seasonings—you have to work with. Ingredients can be found in several places: in the refrigerator, freezer, cabinets, or pantry. Look around, then touch, smell, and taste what you find. Seeing what you have can help you decide what you can make right away or whether you need to add to your family’s shopping list to make a recipe.



Author Mark Bittman

Take stock of tools and equipment

These are the nonfood items you’ll need in order to prepare, cook, and serve what you make. They can include mixing bowls, measuring cups, cutting boards,

pots, pans, spoons, whisks, and small machines, like a blender or food processor. Ask an adult what each is used for. You may be surprised that some have multiple uses. For example, a baking sheet can be used to bake cookies, but it’s also useful for roasting cut-up vegetables tossed in olive oil and salt and pepper.

Stay safe and be comfortable

Now that you know what you have to work with, you can get started. You’ll enjoy cooking much more if you take the time to set up everything you need to be comfortable—and safe. An adult can show you the proper way to handle kitchen tools and equipment and supervise while you use them and operate the stove or oven. There’s a bonus to having help. “Cooking with people you love will help you talk and learn about where food comes from,” said Bittman.

Let go of perfection

Save the recipes you use and take photos of what you make, even if the finished dish didn’t turn out exactly as you expected. What’s important, said Bittman, is enjoying what you created. You can start by making

Learn the lingo



You may run across these cooking terms when making recipes. (Always have an adult supervise while you cook or bake!)

Stir You typically use a spoon to stir. But you can also swirl food with a spatula, fork, or tongs.

Whisk Whisking is beating with a whisk or fork until food is creamy, foamy, frothy, or fluffy.

Mash You can use a handheld masher, mixer, or ricer to mash food, like potatoes.

Puree Pureeing is like super mashing—making food smooth with a blender or food processor.

Simmer Simmer means what’s in the pot is gently bubbling.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can also use non-cheese fillings, such as a thin, hot layer of beans or mashed potatoes, to make quesadillas.

WARNING!
Ask an adult's permission before using the stove.



Cook up extra-crispy cheese quesadillas

Ingredients

- 4 (8-inch) flour tortillas
- 1 cup grated melting cheese (like cheddar or Jack)
- 4 teaspoons vegetable oil
- Optional: chopped scallions, chopped black or green olives, red chile flakes or chili powder, salsa, guacamole, sour cream, or hot sauce



Instructions

1. Spread the tortillas on a clean, flat work surface and scatter the cheese evenly on top of each. Leave room at the edges so the cheese has room to melt and spread. Optional: You can top quesadillas with a fistful of chopped scallion, chopped black or green olives, or a sprinkle of red chile flakes or chili powder.
2. Add 1 teaspoon of the oil to a nonstick skillet over medium heat. When it's hot and shimmering, use a spatula to move one of the tortillas to the pan. Cook, watching for the cheese to melt and the tortilla to look golden, 2 to 3 minutes (use the spatula to lift the corner and peek). Adjust the heat so it's sizzling without burning.
3. Slip the spatula under one side of the tortilla and fold it in half. Let the quesadilla cook until the bottom half is brown and crisp, about 1 minute. Then use the spatula to flip over the tortilla and brown the other side the same way. When the quesadilla is done, move it to a cutting board, then repeat the recipe until you've used all the oil and tortillas.
4. While the other tortillas are cooking, cut the finished quesadilla into wedges, put them on a plate, and get the optional toppings (such as salsa, guacamole, sour cream, or hot sauce) ready so you can start eating. Serves 2 to 4.



LIFE HACK

TRY EATING NEW CUISINES

When it comes to food, people often prefer the tastes and textures they have had before. But there are benefits to trying new cuisines. Eating new foods can help you discover more foods to enjoy. Food is also a way to explore and appreciate the traditions from different cultures. For example, in a Moroccan restaurant, chicken may be enjoyed with everyone gathered around a tagine (a cone-shaped cooking pot), using bread to scoop up the meal by hand. In a Japanese restaurant, slurping while eating noodles is a sign of appreciation for the chef. You can also make new recipes at home. Remember that it can take several tries before you decide you like it.





Puzzles

Word search

Can you find all these words associated with pianos?

They are hidden horizontally, vertically, or diagonally and can be forward or backward.

When you're done, read the remaining letters to get a bonus message.

BABY GRAND

BENCH

CHORD

CRESCENDO

ETUDE

FLAT

FORTE

G CLEF

IVORIES

KEYS

METRONOME

MIDDLE C

NOTES

OCTAVE

PEDALS

SCALES

SHARP



SHEET MUSIC

STAFF

TEMPO

TIMBRE

TREBLE

TUNER

UPRIGHT

WOOD

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks in each sentence with two words so the second word is the same as the first word with one letter dropped, like THROUGH and THOUGH. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

1. We wanted to make a cake that would serve six people, but we didn't have enough _____, so it was only large enough for _____ of us.
2. The man next door is so proud of his new car that he soaps it up and _____ it off every weekend as soon as the sun _____.
3. I don't mean to pry, but I _____ your entire conversation when you were on the porch and I was standing right _____ on the balcony.

ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.



These two pictures of flags on Wall Street appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?



OFF SIDES

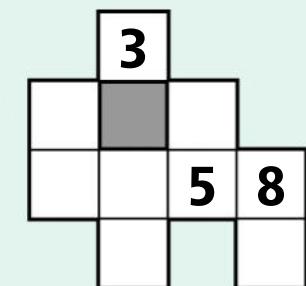
Make three different five-letter words by using the letters given to fill in the blanks.

A L M S V Y

I S T

I S T

I S T





The ghost with the most pumpkins

A gourd day for Beetlejuice

A farm in England paid tribute to the recently released film *Beetlejuice*, *Beetlejuice* with a mosaic made out of 10,000 pumpkins and other gourds. The staff at Sunnyfields Farm used a mix of orange, black, white, and gray squash to depict Michael Keaton's famous character sitting on top of a pile of pumpkins. "All of the pumpkins in the mosaic are naturally colored," said owner Ian Nelson, and "a lot of them are edible." After approximately 50 hours of planning, it took a 15-person team about seven hours to set up the display for the farm's 80,000 visitors. "It's showtime!" they said in a video on social media.



The great outdoors...indoors



Mountaineering from home

You may have heard of making a mountain out of a molehill, but what about making the world's biggest mountain out of a staircase? Sean Greasley of Nevada earned a world record and raised money for charity by completing a challenge: walking up and down the height of Mount Everest on the stairs in his home. First, Greasley set some ground rules. For example, he wouldn't hold the railing because, he said, "you wouldn't have that on Everest." It took him 22 hours, 57 minutes, and 2 seconds to ascend and descend 29,032 feet. "Nobody has done this before," he said. "Not from sea level anyway."

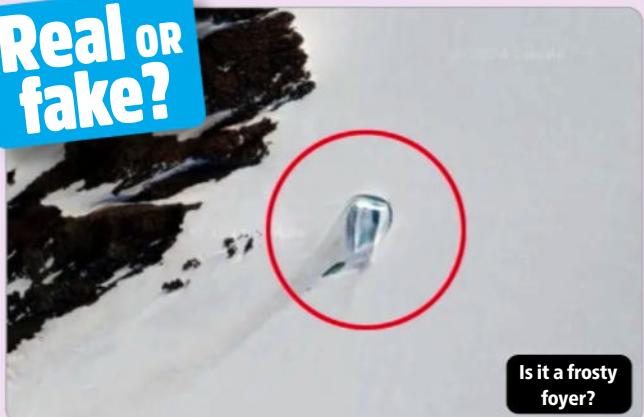


The two Sarahs

A happy balloon coincidence

In 1992, an 8-year-old girl named Sarah Hughes wrote her name, phone number, and Kentucky hometown on a balloon and released it into the sky. Two weeks later, she got a call from Connecticut. An 11-year-old girl, also named Sarah Hughes, had received the balloon more than 1,200 miles away. The Sarahs wrote letters back and forth for more than a year before losing touch. This fall, the younger Sarah was visiting Connecticut and decided to reach out to her former pen pal. The pair met in person for the first time and looked back at their letters. "I'm so glad I took a chance," said the younger Sarah.

Real OR fake?



Is it a frosty foyer?

Secret doorway discovered

Eagle-eyed Google Maps users noticed something unusual in satellite images of Antarctica: a mysterious doorway nestled in the icy mountains of the frozen continent. Although it was located near a Japanese research station, the door did not belong to the scientists working there. Some people said it's a passage to Superman's fortress of solitude or Bigfoot's vacation home, while others thought it may be part of a crashed plane or spaceship. An expedition to investigate and open the door is set for next year. Is this true, or does the story lead nowhere?*

"I am pretty sure it's just a natural phenomenon and nothing to get excited about," doorway was probably a melting iceberg sliding out of the snow. One scientist said, "Fake! No expedition has been planned. Experts explained that what looked like a



Your turn

Editor's note

At *The Week Junior*, we are getting ready to report on the results of Election 2024 (p2). This has been an exciting time in the US, and the outcome will affect everyone in our nation for years to come, so we are eager to see what happens and determined to do the best possible job of explaining it to our readers. The last day to vote is November 5, and our deadline for next week's issue is 9 a.m. on November 6. So there is a chance we will not yet know the winners of many races—including the most closely watched race, the contest between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump for the Presidency—at press time. We will provide the most current information possible in that issue and continue our coverage the week after that. If you have an opinion once the results are known, we want to hear it! This is your country, and your voice is important. Write to us anytime at hello@theweekjunior.com.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

CHARITY OF THE WEEK



Adaptive Sports Center
This organization works to ensure that adults and children with disabilities can participate in the outdoor activities of their choice. It modifies sporting equipment to fit people's needs and provides instruction on activities such as biking, rock climbing, hiking, skiing, and snowboarding. It helps more than 1,200 people a year be active outside.

Find out more at
adaptivesports.org.



A sweet cause

“I am a huge fan of *The Week Junior* and read it every week! My twin sister Megha, my friend Avery, and I created a nonprofit food business called Suga-Friez. We make delicious french fries topped with cinnamon sugar. We received a grant from our school for the business and have held two sales. At our first sale, we made \$123. We held our second sale at a local festival and made \$606.05. We donated 100% of our profits to Kiva, an organization that gives microloans to underserved communities around the world, and we plan to do more. Through this process, we have learned a lot about starting a business and cooking, and we also have had a bunch of fun together!”



From left: Avery, 16, Megha, 16, and Tanya, 16, New York

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Why shouldn't you worry when an actor disappears into a hole in the floor? He's just going through a stage.

ANNUAL COMPETITION

Enter our Winter Cover Contest!

If you would like to see your artwork on the cover of *The Week Junior*, here is your chance! We are accepting entries to our 2024 Winter Cover Contest. At right is the winning cover from our 2023 competition. The drawing form and consent form needed to enter can be found at kids.theweekjunior.com/activities. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, and how well they reflect the winter theme and *The Week Junior*. Be sure your artwork is in color! When you're finished, have a parent fill out the consent form and email it with a digital image of your artwork to covercontest@theweekjunior.com. The deadline to apply is November 13!



THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.

Your turn



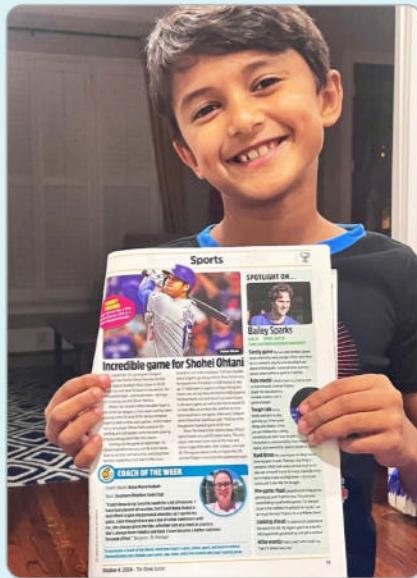
YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Have an adult email them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you would like us to know about what's happening in the photo.



"We went to see *The Great Elephant Migration* in New York, and I got to touch the elephants!"
Annabelle, 10, New York

"Thank you so much for including my favorite baseball player, Shohei Ohtani! I love to read *The Week Junior* every day!" Shivank, 8, Texas



"We were so excited to see the new John Lewis statue in our community featured in *The Week Junior*. We love your magazine!"
Isaac, 9, and Oliver, 9, Georgia

Teacher of the Week



Teacher's Name: Mrs. Mullen
School: Dayton Christian School

"I am nominating Mrs. Mullen for her caring ways and her kind heart. She is so positive and encouraging to me and her class. I want to thank her for showing me magazines that I love and for being the best teacher I've ever had. She brings joy every day and makes learning fun and enjoyable for everyone. I'm so glad I'm in her class this year!"

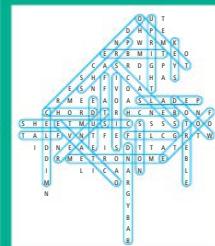
Lucy, 10, Ohio

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.

GETTY IMAGES ON LEFT PAGE: ADAPTIVE SPORTS CENTER



Puzzle answers (from page 26)



Unused letters: The word "piano" means "soft" in Italian.



Off sides
lists
misty
vista

Fill in the blanks
1. flour, four
2. rinses, rises
3. overheard, overhead



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 Dance 2 a) Black Doom 3 c) South Carolina 4 False. They ring twice a day. 5 c) US Open 6 2030 7 True 8 c) Travis Kelce 9 b) Water anole 10 Odette 11 b) London 12 False. Only about 39% do. 13 b) Kansas City Current 14 True 15 Beetlejuice

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 In a new study, scientists discovered that female crested gibbons do what?



2 In the video game Sonic x Shadow Generations, who is Shadow's nemesis?

a) Black Doom b) Dr. Eggman c) Time Eater

a b c

3 Which state is planning to put up a statue of Robert Smalls on its statehouse lawn?

a) Alabama b) Georgia c) South Carolina

a b c

4 True or false? The brass bells of Wall Street ring once a day.

True False

5 Charlie Cooper is the first American wheelchair tennis player to win which Grand Slam competition?

a) Australian Open b) French Open
c) US Open

a b c

6 In what year does NASA plan to stop using the International Space Station?



7 True or false? A recent study found that traveling can help people live longer.

True False

8 Which NFL player is hosting the new game show *Are You Smarter Than a Celebrity?*

a) Kirk Cousins b) Russell Wilson
c) Travis Kelce

a b c



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

9 What type of lizard was found to use air bubbles to breathe underwater?

a) Water monitor

b) Water anole

c) Water dragon

a b c

10 In the ballet *Swan Lake*, what is the name of the princess who is cursed to become a swan?

11 In the novel *Out of My Dreams*, where does Melody attend a conference?

a) Barcelona b) London c) Paris

a b c

12 True or false? All modern humans have a tiny bone in their knee called the lateral fabella.

True False

13 Which soccer team won the first-ever NWSL x Liga MX Femenil Summer Cup?

a) Angel City FC
b) Kansas City Current
c) NJ/NY Gotham FC

a b c

14 True or false? Dinosaur fossils were recently discovered in Hong Kong for the first time.

True False

15 A farm in England used thousands of pumpkins and gourds to depict what spooky movie character?

THE WEEK Junior

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**Save
66%**

It's amazing what happens when you open the world to young minds

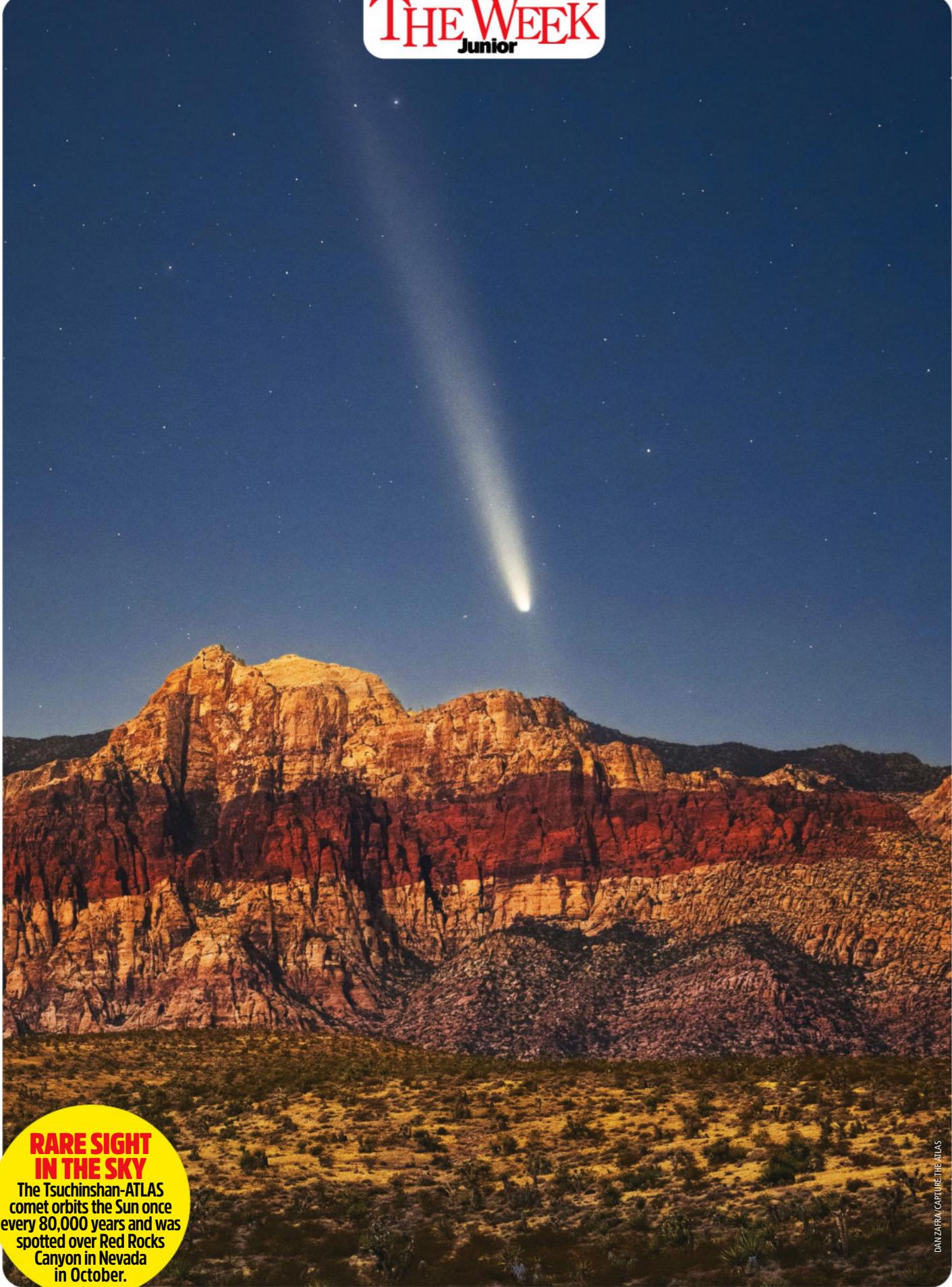
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RARE SIGHT IN THE SKY

The Tsuchinshan-ATLAS comet orbits the Sun once every 80,000 years and was spotted over Red Rocks Canyon in Nevada in October.